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Thursday, October 27, 2016 metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly

SPOOKTACULAR COCKTAILS

The scariest part is the hangover. 16

Rebecca Hall plays 'Christine.' 14-15

For Flyers' Gudas, it's all about discipline. 21

GAYBORHOOD GRIEVANCES

LGBTQ community cites rampant racism. 2

MARIA S. YOUNG

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Take our daily news quiz to test your knowledge by going to **www.metro.us/news-quiz** to submit your answers.

1. Why did Prince Albert II of Monaco recently visit the city?

2. The Eagles rank 29th of 32 NFL teams in which of the following categories?

3. Which Woody Allen film was Rebecca Hall in?

3 things you need to know

DONALD TRUMP'S HOLLYWOOD WALK OF FAME STAR VANDALIZED

Donald Trump's star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame was badly vandalized, possibly with a sledgehammer, media and officials said Wednesday. A photo published in the online Hollywood publication Deadline.com showed Trump's name scratched out, the emblem in the middle dislodged and chips from the star missing. The Republican presidential nominee, real estate developer and reality-TV star has been the focus of several large protests during his campaign appearances in California, where polls show he is trailing far behind Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton. The former host of the NBC show "The Apprentice," Trump received his Walk of Fame star in 2007. REUTERS

RUSSIA BEEFS UP BALTIC FLEET AMID NATO TENSIONS

2 Russia is sharply upgrading the firepower of its Baltic fleet by adding warships armed with long-range cruise missiles to counter NATO's buildup in the region, Russian media reported Wednesday. There was no official confirmation from Moscow, but the reports will raise tensions in the Baltic, already heightened since Russia's 2014 annexation of Crimea, and cause particular alarm in Poland and Lithuania, which border Russia's base there. The reported deployment comes as NATO is planning its biggest military buildup on Russia's borders since the Cold War to deter possible Russian aggression. Russia's daily Izvestia newspaper cited a military source as saying that the first two of five ships, the Serpukhov and the Zeleny Dol, had already entered the Baltic Sea and would soon become part of a newly formed division in Kaliningrad, Russia's European exclave sandwiched between Poland and Lithuania. REUTERS

MICROSOFT ANNOUNCES WINDOWS UPDATE WITH 3-D FEATURES

3 Microsoft on Wednesday announced a free update to its Windows operating system that lets users take photos and edit content in three dimensions, in an effort to bring excitement to its declining computing business. The Windows 10 Creators Update, coming in early 2017, lets users on mobile devices take three-dimensional photos by scanning an object as they walk around it. It also allows for 3-D graphics in Microsoft's popular PowerPoint presentation software, and a new "Paint 3D" application lets people edit photos and other designs in three dimensions. REUTERS

CORRECTION

Due to a reporting error, the story "Are Amber Rose and Val Chmerkovskiy dating?" in Wednesday's Word column incorrectly said that Val Chmerkovskiy was Amber Rose's partner on the TV show "Dancing with the Stars." In fact, Rose was partnered with Val's older brother, Maksim Chmerkovskiy. Metro regrets the error.

Philly's queer community of color demands change

Airing of long-held grievances by LGBT black and brown community at hearing on racism in the Gayborhood.

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D'Ontace Keyes, second from right, and the Philadelphia Commission on Human Relations at the Oct. 25 hearing on racism in the Gayborhood. SAM NEWHOUSE

Some recalled being forced out of bars in the Gayborhood after being told they fit police descriptions of suspected criminals. Others described receiving threatening, racist messages for trying to organize minority-focused LGBT events.

After weeks of protests in the Gayborhood over racial tensions, queer people of color got the opportunity Tuesday to share their stories of belittlement, harassment and discrimination at a public hearing.

The stories have been told loud and clear in recent protests, but this time it went on the record, and the Philadelphia Commission on Human Relations is promising action.

"It's going to be uncomfortable for folks to continue to disregard the mistreatment of black and brown folks in the Gayborhood now," asserted Sappho Fulton, 52, a lesbian who testified at the hearing about never feeling welcome in the gay neighborhood of Center City. "Once you know, you can't go back to not knowing."

Queer people of color have long brought up issues with how they are treated going to gay bars in the Gayborhood compared to white gay people.

Not one, not two, not 10. Every single witness out of the dozens who testified Tuesday shared stories about themselves or their friends being denied entry to bars over obscure dress codes, being asked to produce multiple forms of identification, or being ignored by bartenders while trying to order drinks.

Multiple witnesses testified that racial tension is also rife in the numerous, mostly health-focused nonprofits that serve the LGBT community in the Gayborhood.

"It feels unsafe. You have a bunch of young white therapists in these facilities and they don't know what it's like to be a person of color coming from a culture with certain issues," said Fulton, who is clinical director at the House of Hope.

Issues of racial tension in the Gayborhood first rose to prominence when former Metro columnist Ernest Owens blew the lid open last year with a column describing the "subtle segregation" of the Gayborhood. As one white gay man put it, "That column split the Gayborhood in two."

After a years-old video surfaced last month showing the owner of gay bar iCandy Darryl DePiano casually using racial slurs, it seemed everyone's worst accusations were vindicated.

The video sparked a series of protests. Mayor Jim Kenney and his Director of LGBT Affairs Nellie Fitzpatrick were targeted, among others, for allowing racial discrimination in the Gayborhood to continue, and they responded by scheduling Tuesday's hearing.

D'Ontace Keyes, 26, the newest member of the city Commission on Human Relations and a gay black man, said people can rest assured that Tuesday's hearing will lead to changes.

"It was history being made, and history being considered to take future steps," he said of the hearing. "People who have felt silent for so long could finally speak their truth."

Keyes pointed out that bars cannot legally discriminate based on race, and anyone who experiences that should report it to the commission.

The commission is closely reviewing the policies and procedures at 11 bars in the Gayborhood. They'll be accepting testimony for one more week.

For the expanded version, visit metro.us

BRIEFS

Police: Boyds targeted in overnight smash-and-grab

The front windows of Boyds were shattered Tuesday morning after a smash-and-grab heist targeted the high-end men's store in City Center, police said.

Burglars made off with more than $45,000 worth of merchandise, including hats, jackets and other menswear in a heist that happened around 4:45 a.m., investigators said.

Authorities released surveillance footage Wednesday morning, which shows several suspects driving up to the store on Chestnut Street in two vehicles. A red Toyota Rav4 was used to smash the building's front window, and thieves then entered the store and grabbed merchandise. They then sped off in a silver Mercedes Benz.

When police responded to the scene, they found a mannequin and other items laying in broken glass on the sidewalk, as well as a piece of the car's bumper in front of the store, Philly.com reported.

GETTY IMAGES

Anyone with information is asked to contact Central Detectives at 215-686-3093/3094. Tips can be submitted by phone at 215-686-8477 (TIPS) or via text to 773847 (PPD TIP). Tips can also be submitted anonymously by an electronic form at phillypolice.com. ALEXIS SACHDEV

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Three corrections officers accused of beating inmate, attempting cover-up

Prosecutors say the officers claimed the inmate was mentally ill and injured himself.

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GETTY IMAGES

Three prison guards at a Philly jail have been accused of beating up an inmate in June and lying to cover it up.

Corrections officers Milton Gibbs, 52, Terrance Bailey, 30, and Shaun Lowe, 26, are charged with aggravated assault, tampering with public records and related charges for the attack on an inmate at the Philadelphia Industrial Correctional Center, the District Attorney's Office announced Wednesday.

Gibbs allegedly sparked the altercation on June 21 when he "became agitated with the victim, a male inmate, and began pounding on his cell door and threatening him," according to prosecutors.

"After returning to the control desk, Gibbs called Bailey and they entered the victim's cell and began to repeatedly punch and kick the victim," the DA's office stated. "Eventually, they handcuffed the victim and walked him down a staircase, striking him along the way."

The assault just escalated, with Lowe later joining in for no apparent reason, prosecutors said.

"At the cell block's exit, Bailey struck the victim in the back of the head knocking him to the ground. Gibbs and Bailey then dragged the victim into the central control area and began to stomp on him," prosecutors said. "Lowe arrived on scene and joined in the assault."

The victim reportedly lost consciousness twice during the beating. The DA also said the officers intentionally assaulted the inmate in areas not recorded by surveillance cameras.

Gibbs and Bailey later "submitted a mental health referral alleging that the victim intentionally harmed himself to cover up the assault. ... Gibbs tried to coerce the victim to not report the incident in exchange for food from the staff kitchen," according to prosecutors.

In their incident reports, all three prison guards claimed to only use "open hand" blows during the incident.

District Attorney Seth Williams credited the Philadelphia Prison System for requesting further investigation of the incident.

"This attack on a handcuffed inmate by sworn corrections officers is egregious," Williams said. "Every inmate who is held in our prisons deserves to be treated with dignity and respect."

The officers surrendered to authorities Wednesday and were suspended without pay pending the trial. There was no information available as to whether they had obtained lawyers who could comment on the charges in their behalf.

BRIEFS

DA's ex-girlfriend ordered to anger management class in tire-slashing case

The ex-girlfriend of Philadelphia District Attorney Seth Williams was sentenced Wednesday to one year of probation and is required to take an anger management class for slashing the tires of two cars outside Williams' residence last year.

Stacey Cummings, 47, previously agreed to enter into the Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition program of the Philadelphia Municipal Court.

The program allows individuals with no prior criminal record to have their cases expunged if all conditions of their sentence are met.

In addition to probation, Cummings must pay $845 in fines. She already repaid the cost of the damage to the slashed tires on the two cars, which were city-owned.

Both Cummings and her attorney, Greg Pagano, declined to comment after the hearing.

She was charged in August for the slashings, which occurred last November.

GARY KANE

Even Trump's New Jersey golf courses are under fire

The Republican presidential candidate faces a lawsuit accusing discrimination against a gay employee at Philly-area golf course, as well as calls for the U.S. Women's Open to leave another of his Jersey golf courses.

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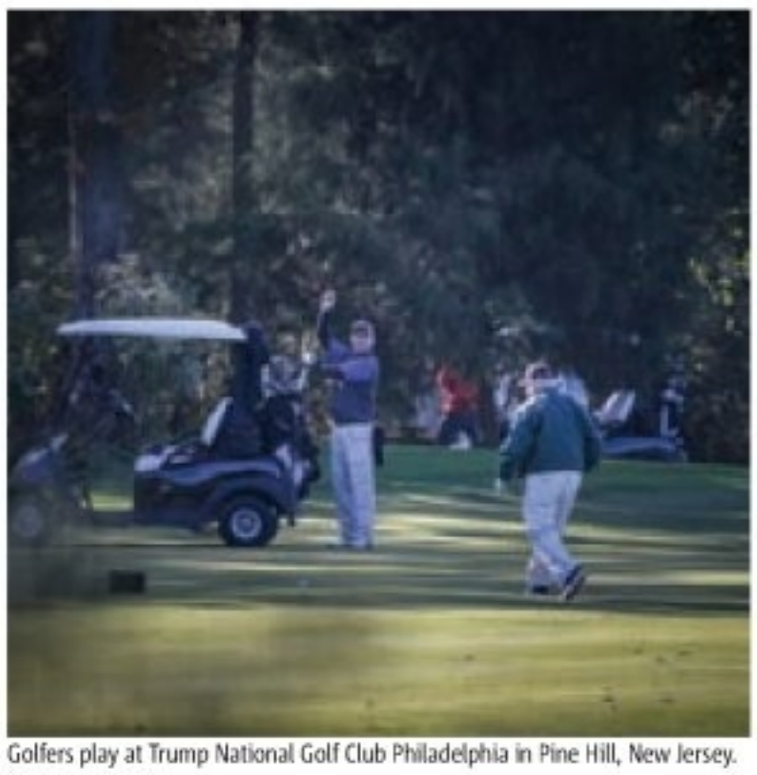

Golfers play at Trump National Golf Club Philadelphia in Pine Hill, New Jersey.
CHARLES MOSTOLLER

Nothing named Trump can escape the reputation of the Republican presidential candidate.

For Donald Trump's Trump National Golf Courses in New Jersey, they're facing a double whammy.

At Trump National Golf Club Philadelphia, located in Pine Hill in South Jersey, a gay employee is suing, claiming he was pelted with golf balls and rocks by co-workers, and supervisors did nothing to help him.

Eleazar Andres, of Lindenwold, filed a lawsuit against the Trump National Golf Course in May 2015, saying he was called a f—t in May 2014, NJ.com reported.

Andres alleged that fellow employees threw rocks and golf balls at him, to the point he had to seek medical treatment. He claims supervisors didn't take action, and after he filed a police report because he no longer felt safe going to work, he was fired.

The lawsuit became an issue on the campaign trail after Democrat Hillary Clinton brought it up.

"It is deeply disturbing that instead of stepping in to stop the tormentors, Trump's golf club turned on the victim for coming forward," Clinton said during a speech Tuesday in Manchester, New Hampshire. "If that's how Donald Trump runs his business, what does that say about how he would run our country?"

Secondly, Trump National Golf Club Bedminster in Central Jersey is facing criticism from Democratic senators who say the U.S. Women's Open needs to find a new golf course because of Trump's various comments about women.

Democratic Sen. Bob Menendez of New Jersey (who is facing federal bribery and corruption charges) joined fellow Democratic Sens. Bob Casey of Pennsylvania and Edward Markey of Massachusetts in a call for the U.S. Women's Open to move from Trump National Golf Club Bedminster to a new venue.

"In declining future association with a brand that degrades women, the USGA [United States Golf Association] and LPGA [Ladies Professional Golf Association] have an opportunity to make clear to the world, and most especially young Americans, that our nation will not tolerate nor do business with any company that condones or excuses action that constitutes sexual assault," Menendez wrote in a letter sent out Tuesday.

To mitigate the loss of work for his constituents, Menendez said the tournament, scheduled for next July, should be held elsewhere in New Jersey.

The USGA did not respond to requests for comment about the tournament. Neither did the Trump campaign.

BRIEFS

Teen charged in Rittenhouse Square shooting

Police have identified the 17-year-old who turned himself in to police as the Rittenhouse Square gunman who allegedly shot a good Samaritan last week.

Mehdi Fraiji, of the 900 block of South 15th Street, is being charged as an adult with attempted murder, aggravated assault, robbery, firearms violations and related offenses, CBS3 Philadelphia reported.

The charges stem from an Oct. 18 incident when a 39-year-old cyclist was riding through the park and happened upon a robbery in progress. Two men were sticking up an 18-year-old woman and a 22-year-old man, police said. When the cyclist intervened, Fraiji allegedly took a revolver from his accomplice and fired several shots, Philly.com reported. The pair then ran off.

Police responded to multiple calls in the park just after 9:30 p.m., when they found the victim laying on a walkway. He was taken to Hahnemann University Hospital, where he was treated for wounds to his torso and shoulder.

Fraiji surrendered at the police station around 4 a.m. Saturday, and was accompanied by his father. Police were able to identify the teen as a suspect because the couple in the robbery attempt knew him by his nickname.

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BRIEF

Officials: ISIS executes dozens of prisoners near Mosul

Islamic State militants have in recent days executed dozens of prisoners taken from villages the group has been forced to abandon by an Iraqi army advance on the city of Mosul, officials in the region said on Wednesday.

Most of those killed were former members of the Iraqi police and army who had lived in areas under Islamic State control south of Mosul, Abdul Rahman al-Waggaa, a member of the Nineveh provincial council, told Reuters.

The militants forced them to leave their homes with their families, and took them to the town of Hammam Al-Alil, nine miles south of Mosul, where the executions took place, he said in Erbil, the capital of the Kurdish region, east of Mosul.

The men were shot dead, he said, quoting the testimony of remaining residents of the villages and people displaced from the area.

The executions were meant "to terrorize the others, those who are in Mosul in particular," and also to get rid of the prisoners, he said.

"Daesh [Islamic State] was taking families from each village it left," said Waggaa.

Separately, Hoshiyar Zebari, an influential Kurdish politician, told Reuters in Erbil that at least 65 people had been executed by Islamic State south of Mosul three days ago.

The militants started rounding up hostages in the villages of Al-Hudd and Al-Lazzaga, after a revolt broke out against them a week ago to aid the army's advance, said Zebari, a former Iraqi finance minister and foreign minister.

More than 20 were put to death as punishment in two villages located just north of the town of Qayyara, he said. REUTERS

Fans leave the stadium after the earthquake during the Serie A match between Pescara Calcio and Atalanta BC at Adriatico Stadium in Pescara, Italy. GETTY IMAGES

Strong quakes hit central Italy; no deaths reported

The three quakes, which struck about two hours apart from each other, caused the collapse of several old structures, including a number of historic rural churches that were empty at the time.

A series of strong earthquakes rocked a wide area of central Italy on Wednesday, striking fear among residents rattled by a deadly tremor in August, but there were no reports of casualties and few serious injuries.

The three quakes, which struck about two hours apart from each other, caused the collapse of several old structures, including a number of historic rural churches that were empty at the time.

The first measured a magnitude of 5.4, the second 6.1 and the third 4.9, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

About five hours after the first quake, Civil Protection department chief Fabrizio Curcio said "tens" of people were reported hurt but only four suffered serious, nonlife-threatening injuries.

"The reports are not as catastrophic as we feared," he said.

All indications were that the damage would not approach that caused by the major quake that struck the Marche, Lazio and Umbria regions on Aug. 24, which devastated several towns and killed nearly 300 people.

Amateur video footage on television showed clouds of dust rising as parts of buildings collapsed in some towns, including Camerino in the Marche region, where a bell tower fell on a building.

Massive boulders, some the size of cars, fell on the main north-south road of the Nera River valley that links mountain communities.

The tremors sent residents running into the streets in the rain and were strong enough to be felt as far south as the outskirts of Naples more than 150 miles away and as far north as Venice, some 180 miles away. Masonry fell from some buildings in Rome.

The epicentres of the quakes were near the town of Castelsantangelo sul Nera in the Marche region.

The historic late 15th-century rural church of San Salvatore in Campo, near Norcia in the Umbria region, which had been weakened by the August quake, collapsed.

Electrical power was lost in some of the areas and some roads were closed.

Wednesday's earthquakes caused more damage to already precarious structures in Amatrice, the town worst hit by the 6.2-magnitude tremor in August, officials said, but there were no injuries. REUTERS

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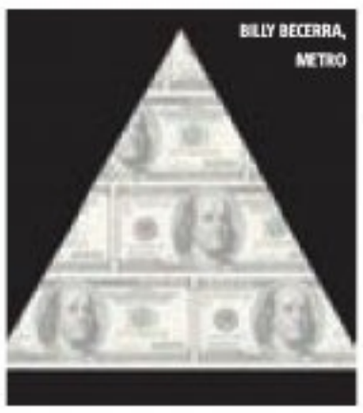
Conn. man who ran Ponzi scheme as teen gets prison

Ian Parker Bick, 21, of Danbury, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Jeffrey Alker Meyer in New Haven.


BILLY BECERRA, METRO

A Connecticut man was sentenced on Wednesday to three years in prison after being convicted of bilking investors out of nearly $500,000 in a failed Ponzi scheme he ran while still a teenager, federal prosecutors said.

Ian Parker Bick, now 21, of Danbury, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Jeffrey Alker Meyer in New Haven.

The judge also ordered Bick to spend at least one year in home confinement following his release from prison, and to make full restitution to his victims.

Jurors had convicted Bick last November on six counts of wire fraud and one count of money laundering.

Jonathan Einhorn, a lawyer for Bick, was not immediately available for comment after the sentencing.

Prosecutors said Bick began soliciting funds from friends, former classmates and their parents in 2012, when he was 17, using entities such as This Is Where It's At Entertainment and Planet Youth Entertainment.

Bick was accused of promising high returns by promoting concerts and reselling electronics online, only to use money he raised for personal expenses such as hotel stays and jet skis, and to make assorted payments to some of his investors.

In court papers, Einhorn had argued that no prison time was appropriate, citing the defendant's immaturity and the greed of his victims, primarily adults, "seeking usurious interest rates in loaning him money."

Prosecutors had contended that a 6-1/2-year or longer sentence could be justified. They said Bick had not shown remorse, and had after his conviction used investor money to gamble at the Empire City Casino in Yonkers, New York. REUTERS

BRIEF

US abstains for first time on UN call for end to Cuba embargo

The United States on Wednesday abstained for the first time from a United Nations General Assembly vote on a resolution calling for an end to a U.S. economic embargo on Cuba, after opposing such measures every year for 24 years.

For the 25th time, the 193-member General Assembly adopted the resolution with 191 votes in favor. Israel, which opposed the resolution last year, also abstained on Wednesday. Such resolutions are nonbinding, but can carry political weight.

Communist-run Cuba and the United States, former Cold War foes, began normalizing relations in 2014. President Barack Obama has taken steps to ease trade and travel restrictions on Cuba, but only Congress can lift the full embargo.

The Republican-controlled Congress has resisted Obama's call to lift Washington's economic embargo after more than 50 years. Republican critics say Obama is making too many concessions to Cuba for too little in return, especially on human rights.

The U.N. General Assembly applauded when U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power announced prior to the vote that the United States would abstain.

"Abstaining on this resolution does not mean that the United States agrees with all of the policies and practices of the Cuban government. We do not," Power told the General Assembly.

"We are profoundly concerned by the serious human rights violations that the Cuban government continues to commit with impunity against its own people," she said. REUTERS

BRIEF

US Marshals join manhunt for Oklahoma man suspected of double murder

The U.S. Marshals Service has joined the search for an Oklahoma man suspected of wounding two police officers in a shootout, stealing a police truck, killing his aunt and uncle and making social media posts of his escape, authorities said on Tuesday.

The Marshals Service said it was taking part in the search for 38-year-old Michael Vance, wanted in Sunday's slayings in the town of Luther, about 30 miles northeast of Oklahoma City, but did not specify its role.

Vance is suspected of killing Ronald Wilkson, 55, and his wife Valerie Wilkson, 54, and trying to decapitate them at their home, the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office said.

Vance is thought to have killed his aunt and uncle about three hours after the shootout with police, the sheriff's office said. The officers were responding to a call of shots being fired. Both suffered wounds that were not life-threatening.

Vance, who appeared to have been shot in the gunfight with the officers, also has an infectious disease that he may be trying to spread, local law enforcement said. In July, he was charged with child sexual abuse, the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office said. REUTERS

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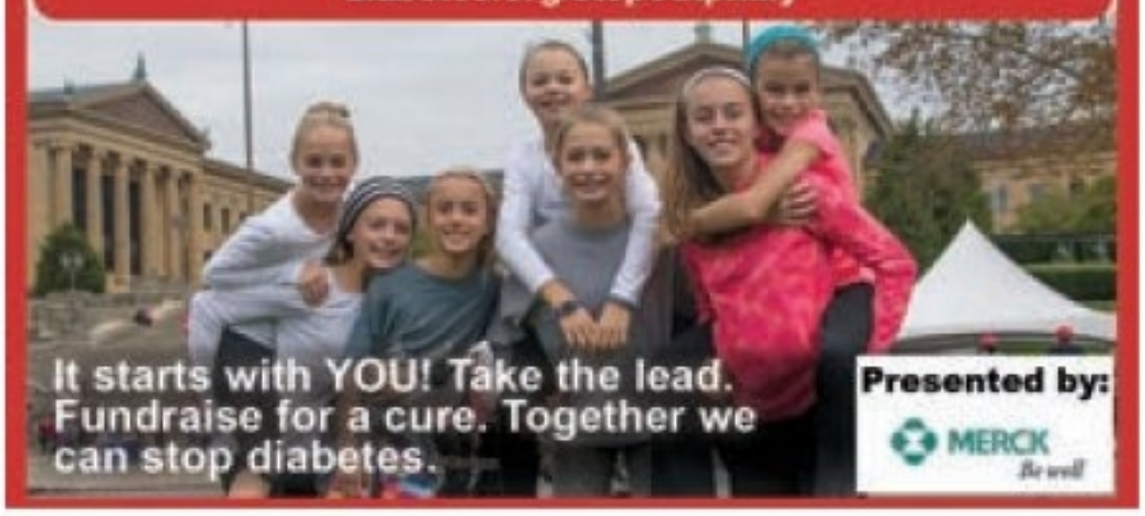

Britain, US sending planes, troops to deter Russia in the east

A U.S. Army tank GETTY IMAGES

Britain said on Wednesday it will send fighter jets to Romania next year and the United States promised troops, tanks and artillery to Poland in NATO's biggest military buildup on Russia's borders since the Cold War.

Germany, Canada and other NATO allies also pledged forces at a defense ministers meeting in Brussels on the same day two Russian warships armed with cruise missiles entered the Baltic Sea between Sweden and Denmark, underscoring East-West tensions.

In Madrid, the foreign ministry said Russia had withdrawn a request to refuel three warships in Spain's North African enclave of Ceuta after NATO allies said they could be used to target civilians in Syria.

The ships were part of an eight-ship carrier battle group — including Russia's sole aircraft carrier Admiral Kuznetsov — that is expected to join around 10 other Russian vessels already off the Syrian coast, diplomats said.

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said the troop contributions to a new 4,000-strong force in the Baltics and eastern Europe were a measured response to what the alliance believes are some 330,000 Russian troops stationed on Russia's western flank near Moscow.

"This month alone, Russia has deployed nuclear-capable Iskander missiles to Kaliningrad and suspended a weapons-grade plutonium agreement with the United States," Stoltenberg said, also accusing Russia of continued support for rebels in Ukraine.

Those ballistic missiles can hit targets across Poland and the Baltics, although NATO officials declined to say if Russia had moved nuclear warheads to Kaliningrad.

NATO's aim is to make good on a July promise by NATO leaders to deter Russia in Europe's ex-Soviet states, after Moscow orchestrated the annexation of the Crimea peninsula in 2014.

NATO's plan is to set up four battle groups with a total of some 4,000 troops from early next year, backed by a 40,000-strong rapid-reaction force, and if need be, follow-on forces.

As part of that, U.S. Secretary of Defense Ash Carter announced a "battle-ready battalion task force" of about 900 soldiers would be sent to eastern Poland, as well as another, separate force equipped with tanks and other heavy equipment to move across eastern Europe.

Britain's Defence Secretary Michael Fallon said Britain would send an 800-strong battalion to Estonia, supported by French and Danish troops, starting from May. The United States wants its troops in position by June.

London is also sending Typhoon fighter aircraft to Romania to patrol around the Black Sea, partly in support of Turkey. REUTERS

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(2) Financial statement of income and expenses and

(3) Statement disclosing the names of officers, directors and principal shareholders.

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DARK HORSE Excluding Rose **$8.01** **DREAMING TREE $11.09**
MARK WEST Calif. Pinot Noir **$9.41** **MEIOMI** Pinot Noir **$20.01**
MONDAVI PRIVATE SELECT. $8.41 **RAVENSWOOD VINT. $8.01**
CHAT. STE. MICHELLE Riesling **$8.21** Chard **$9.41** Cab **$13.09**
COLUMBIA CREST GRAND EST. Cab, Chard, Merlot **$9.09**
ESTANCIA Chard **$9.21** Cab **$12.09** Meritage **$20.01**
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KENDALL JACKSON Cab, Merlot, PN **$15.41** Chardonnay **$12.09**
LA CREMA SONOMA Chard **$16.09** Pinot Noir **$16.91**
RODNEY STRONG SONOMA Cab **$16.09** Chard **$11.91**
SILVER OAK Alexander 2012 **$70.01** Napa 2009 **$99.51**
WILLIAM HILL COASTAL Cab & Chard **$14.09**

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JADOT Beaujolais Villages **$10.09** **SANTA MARGHERITA** PG **$20.10**
RUFFINO Chianti Riserva Tan **$19.01** **ALAMOS** Malbec **$8.21**
BRANCOTT Sauv Blanc - **$11.09** **NOBILO** Sauv Blanc - **$9.09**
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CUPCAKE Prosecco **$9.91** **ANDRE** All Types **$5.19**
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CIROC 80 & Flavors 750ML **$29.09** 1.75LT **$57.09**
GREY GOOSE 80 Proof 750ML **$28.09** 1.75LT **$49.09**
KETEL ONE 80 1.75LT **$39.00** **NEW AMSTERDAM** 80 1.75LT **$19.19**
SKYY 80 1.75LT **$21.09** **FINLANDIA** 1.75LT **$24.99**
STOLI 80 1.75LT **$29.09** **TITO'S** 1.75LT **$29.09**
SMIRNOFF 80 1.75LT **$19.29** **SMIRNOFF** Flavors 1.75LT **$19.99**

GIN

HENDRICK'S 750ML **$33.39** **TANQUERAY** 1.75LT **$34.09**
SAPPHIRE 1.75LT **$39.09** **NEW AMSTERDAM** 1.75LT **$19.19**
SEAGRAM'S 1.75LT **$16.49** **BEEFEATER** 1.75LT **$35.09**

TEQUILA

1800 All Types 1.75LT **$39.99** **PATRON** Silver 750ML **$39.09**
JOSE CUERVO Gold & Silver 1.75LT **$32.09**

RUM

BACARDI Silver, Gold 1.75LT **$19.19** **MALIBU** Coco 1.75LT **$25.09**
CAPT. MORGAN Spiced 1.75LT **$25.09**

BOURBON, RYE, & FLAVORED WHISKEY

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MAKER'S MARK 750ML **$29.09** 1.75LT **$54.09**
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WOODFORD RESERVE 750ML **$31.09**

BLENDS & CANADIAN

CROWN ROYAL Original & Apple 750ML **$26.09** 1.75LT **$47.09**
SEAGRAM'S 7 CROWN 1.75LT **$17.09** **V.O.** 1.75LT **$19.09**

SCOTCH & IRISH WHISKEY

DEWARS 1.75LT **$32.09** **J&B** 1.75LT **$33.09**
GLENFIDDICH 12YR 750ML **$43.09** **LAGAVULIN** 16 YR **$87.91**
JOHNNIE WALKER BLACK 750ML **$29.09** 1.75LT **$59.09**
JOHNNIE WALKER BLUE 750ML **$179.00** RED 1.75LT - **$32.09**
JAMESON 750ML **$28.09** 1.75LT **$49.09**
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COGNAC

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Top executive behind Dakota Access has donated more than $100K to Trump

The top executive at the company behind the embattled Dakota Access Pipeline has donated more than $100,000 to Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump since June, according to campaign finance disclosure records.

The donations by Kelcy Warren, chairman and chief executive officer at pipeline operator Energy Transfer Partners, support the candidate seen by many as more likely to promote the U.S. oil and gas industry than his opponent, Democrat Hillary Clinton.

Warren donated $300 to the Trump campaign during the primaries, and $2,700 to Trump during the general election phase of the campaign, for the maximum contribution allowed by a single individual during an election.

Demonstrators against the Dakota Access Pipeline GETTY IMAGES

He also gave $100,000 to the Trump Victory Fund, a joint fundraising committee that includes the Trump campaign, the Republican National Committee, the Republican Party of Arkansas and the Connecticut Republican Party.

The donations, first reported by the British newspaper The Guardian, were made before the U.S. government halted construction on a segment of Energy Transfer Partners' 1,100-mile Dakota Access Pipeline in early September following protests by Native American and environmental groups.

The project, which would move oil from the highly productive Bakken shale formation to the Midwest and Gulf Coast, sparked violent clashes between security officers near the construction site and Native American tribe members and other protesters. Opponents have said the project will damage burial sites considered sacred to the Standing Rock Sioux tribe and pollute the area's drinking water.

Warren has also given $66,800 to the Republication National Committee since Trump secured the nomination for the Nov. 8 election, The Guardian reported. REUTERS

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Republican hold on state legislatures could slip in election

The Republican Party's grip on state legislatures could loosen in next month's election as Democrats seek to link Republican candidates to the sinking fortunes of the party's White House candidate, Donald Trump.

Republicans, who have dominated control of legislatures since the mid-term election in 2010, currently hold the majority in 67 of the country's 98 partisan legislative chambers, while Democrats have 31. Nebraska's single chamber is nonpartisan.

More than 80 percent of the nation's 7,383 state legislative seats are up for grabs and the race between Trump and Democrat Hillary Clinton is expected to influence races further down the ballot.

The bipartisan National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) estimates 18 legislative chambers in 12 states could switch party control, including in Arizona, Colorado, Kentucky, Minnesota, Nevada, Washington and Wisconsin.

"More than three-fourths of the time the party winning the White House also makes gains in state legislatures. So the odds are Democrats would pick up chambers and seats on the whole if [Clinton] wins," said Tim Storey, a NCSL elections analyst.

National opinion polls show Clinton leading Trump with just under two weeks to go until Election Day.

Democrats are also getting a big boost for down ballot races with Clinton surrogates such as President Barack Obama, Vice President Joe Biden and first lady Michelle Obama on the campaign trail stumping for party candidates.

U.S. Capitol GETTY IMAGES

Trump, on the other hand, is openly feuding with Republican leaders, many of whom distanced themselves from the candidate after a 2005 video surfaced this month in which he is heard bragging about groping women and making other unwanted sexual advances. REUTERS

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ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Ciara is pregnant!

The good news just keeps on coming for the Wilsons. Last week Ciara announced that she'd been named the new global brand ambassador for Revlon. She performed an intimate set for the cosmetics company in a loose fitting ensemble that now makes perfect sense. The 31-year-old was hiding a baby bump.

Ciara and her newlywed husband Russell Wilson, the 27-year-old quarterback for the Seattle Seahawks, are expecting their first child together. The singer already has a 2-year-old son with rapper Future, to whom she was previously engaged. Ciara and Wilson both posted the good news on their Instagram accounts with a picture of the two resting their hands on Ciara's growing belly. Now that she's preparing for another bundle of joy, Ciara is really going to have to put that "1, 2 step" to work.

Chip and Joanna Gaines' church accused of abuse

Chip and Joanna Gaines, the hilariously quirky and wholesome couple behind the HGTV hit show "Fixer Upper," are very open about their religious beliefs. Both Chip and "JoJo" are devout Christians. But their spiritual affiliations are coming into question after some sinister accusations against their church.

Former members of Antioch Community Church in Waco, Texas, described the church's behavior to In Touch as frightening and cultish. Another member claims she was kicked out of the church after she was diagnosed with schizophrenia but not before it attempted to perform an exorcism on her! The founder, Jimmy Seibert, denies using the word "exorcism" but claims the church believes in "demonic oppression."

Chip says that Antioch has a "mandatory" place in his life, but to stay on the safe side, we're only offering our homes for the fixing.

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Amber Tamblyn and David Cross are expecting a baby girl

Amber Tamblyn wrote a powerful opinion piece for Glamour magazine on Wednesday, where she addressed sexual assault, sexism and how it has shaped the world that has brought us to this election cycle.

"The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants" and "Two and a Half Men" actress encouraged readers to "rethink women" and reflected a lot on how motherhood fits into this "big picture." She has a reason to.

The 33-year-old and her husband, 52-year-old actor David Cross, are expecting a child together. Tamblyn revealed she is having a daughter and says that this news has pushed her to consider the world she is being born into.

Someone get baby girl a "This is what a feminist looks like" onesie! She's going to need it.

Len Wiseman files for divorce from Kate Beckinsale

Is there something in the water of our favorite celebrity couples' cribs? There must be. Yet another longtime Hollywood duo is putting the nail in the coffin with divorce: Kate Beckinsale and Len Wiseman.

Things have been rough for the couple since they announced their separation late last year. Both were spotted out without their wedding rings — Len while partying with another woman. E! News reports that Len officially filed for divorce on Tuesday, citing irreconcilable differences.

Kate and Len are joining the ranks of Scottie and Larsa Pippen, Tobey Maguire and Jennifer Meyer, and Brangelina, all of whom recently announced their splits.

Cuffing season is not going well for Hollywood.

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Rebecca Hall didn't want to sensationalize

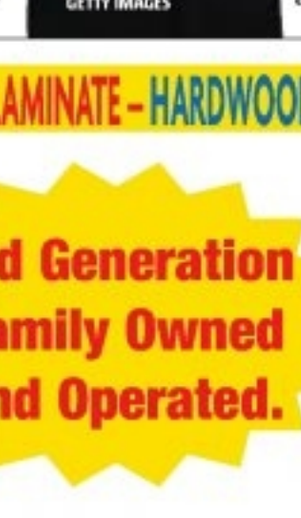
The acclaimed actress talks about the dangers of playing a real person in "Christine."

MATT PRIGGE
@mattprigge
matt.prigge@metro.us

When Rebecca Hall got to Sundance, she had a bit of a surprise: The English actress was there with Antonio Campos' "Christine," a biopic about Christine Chubbuck, the Florida TV news reporter who shot herself on the air in 1974. And lo and behold, not only was there another film there about Chubbuck — Robert Greene's "Kate Plays Christine" — but it was a documentary about the making a film about someone known primarily, even solely for her suicide might not be ethical. To her credit, the "Vicky Cristina Barcelona" and "The Gift" actress never took the task lightly, and nor did the movie itself: It's a deeply empathetic portrait that carefully avoids easy explanations for her decision, and spends most of its time on her life leading up to her final act.

There's only 15 minutes of footage of Christine Chubbuck that is available to the public. What other things did you have to go off of?

Nothing. It was that and an article that was written about her at the time. I'm glad, in a way: Impersonation is problematic. It's got to come from you, no matter how extreme the categorization. It's got to come a place inside of you. Otherwise it will never be honest. I read a lot of books about what it's like to be that depressed and really battle with a suicidal impulse. I don't think there's anyone on this planet who doesn't have someone in their circle who hasn't battled with mental health issues. And I had my personal experiences with occasional anxiety and depression, though I've never been diagnosed or put on medicine. I've had dark moments, but who hasn't? Engaging with all those things about one's


GETTY IMAGES

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Rebecca Hall plays Christine Chubbuck, the news reporter who shot herself on live television in 1974, in Antonio Campos' "Christine," now in theaters. THE ORCHARD

self is where you build from. It's all emotional.

You gave her this very declarative way of speaking.

It's a big voice, but the voice happened because I watched the 15-minute tape and thought this was someone uncomfortable in their own skin, and was barely capable of getting a word out that's free or at ease or relaxed. It struck me that there was something performative about her. Of course, this was from a TV episode where she was interviewing someone, so of course she'd be performative. But it felt to me as though it ran deep. Imagine what happens to the voice: It starts to clamp up. The jaw gets tense. All of those things come from my instincts about those 15 minutes of footage. You can intuit a lot about a person from a first meeting.

The movie's very empathetic toward her, which is different from self-pity.

That would have been sensationalizing. That would be a terrible manipulation, and an easy manipulation. That's not the point. The point is to make you feel what it might have been like to be this person who did this quite unthinkable thing. At the film's base is compassion. It's made not because it wants to explore the act so much as the life that precedes it.

I was wondering if you'd seen "Kate Plays Christine" at this point.

No. I'm nervous to watch a film that's essentially about how you can't do the thing that we did. [Laughs] It's a really sensitive subject matter. It was never my intention to fan the flames of keeping her associated with this sensationalized, macabre, "Oooh, look at that," scary thing that happened.

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things to do

Halloween cocktails to die for

Take a walk on the macabre side and trade in your usual glass of wine for something more sinful — like quaffable candy corn, perhaps? Here are five must-try Halloween cocktails that will carry you through to November. Drink if you dare!

JENNIFER LOGUE

Voodoo Lady

OK, Ween, fans — this drink is doubly your poison because it's not only Halloween-themed but it pays tribute to the popular Philly rock band, Ween, and their song, "Voodoo Lady." Made with local Social Still rye, Art in the Age beetroot, honey simple syrup and peach bitters, this drink is served in a smoked snifter. On Halloween, it will cost only $8. **Square 1682, 121 S. 17th St., square1682.com**

Caramel Apple

What's better than an actual caramel apple? A cocktail one — obviously. Art Bar combines vodka, apple schnapps, DeKuyper sour apple pucker and caramel syrup with an orange garnish for its signature spin on this classic Halloween indulgence. **Art Bar at the Sonesta, 1800 Market St., sonesta.com**

Berries & Bubbles

This signature drink is always on the menu but it gives off a spooky smoke, adding a dash of Halloween fun without getting too campy. Belvedere Citrus Vodka with Creme de Cassis comes together with Chandon Brut, fresh berries and dry ice for an elegant spin on a Halloween-themed cocktail. **Ocean Prime, 124 S. 15th St., ocean-prime.com**

Candy Corn Cocktail

Maybe you didn't love candy corn as a kid, but as a cocktail? It's so pretty and decadent. Godiva white chocolate liqueur comes together with pumpkin-spice liqueur, vanilla vodka and a splash of cream. Be the envy of your Instagram friends and combine dessert and drinks into one. **Davio's Northern Italian Steakhouse, 200 Main St., King of Prussia**

The Dracula

Even Dracula needs a break from drinking blood all the time and he probably wouldn't mind sinking his fangs into this spooktacular cocktail. Named after the original nocturnal party animal, it's made with Captain Morgan, Domaine de Canton, blood orange puree and lime. **Stephen Starr's The Continental, 1 Atlantic Ocean, Atlantic City**

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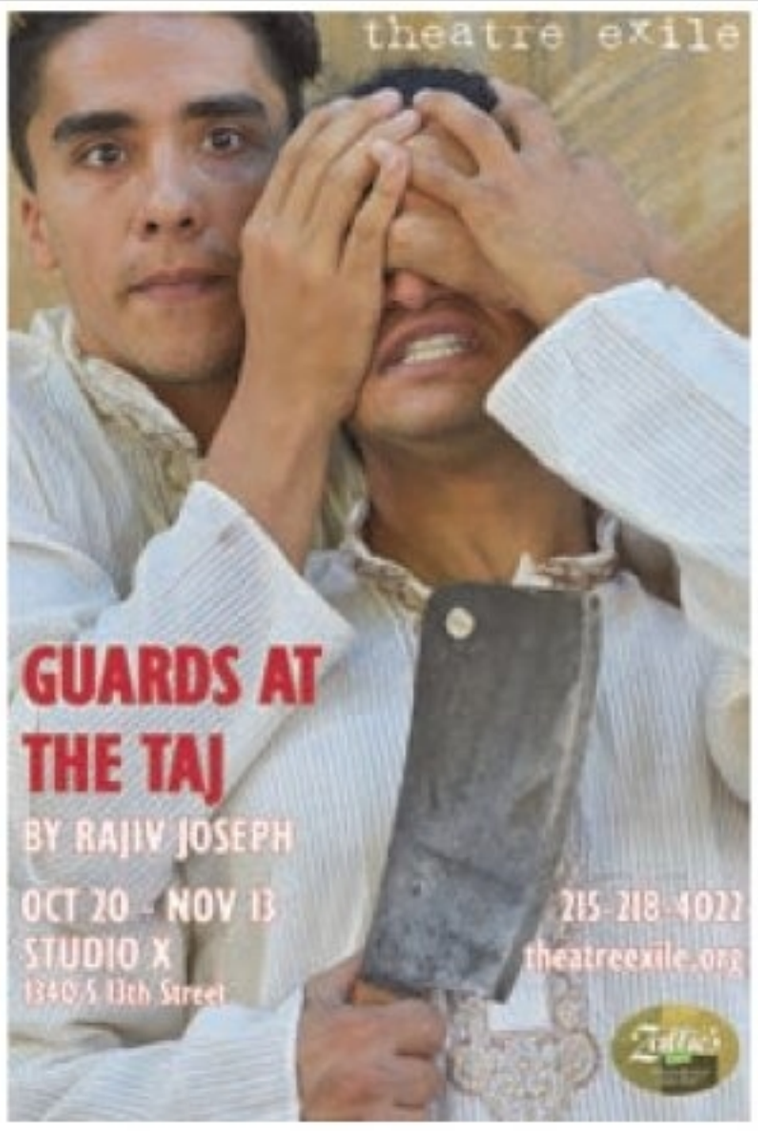

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HOT PLATE

Pumpkin Cake is a limited edition treat at Bakers Jar Philly. JENNIFER LOGUE

Pumpkin cake in a jar

Jennifer Logue eats her way through Philly
jennifer.logue@metro.us

The leaves are changing colors and it's finally weather appropriate to wear a sweater. The only thing that's missing in this cool, crispness of fall is a tasty, decadent treat — something with a little pumpkin, perhaps?

Last week I was scrolling Instagram food hashtags and came across a post from Baker's Jar Philly — a bakery that makes cakes in perfectly portioned mason jars!

I've never seen anything like it, and after creeping on the rest of their photos, I had to visit.

Located on the corner of 16th and Bainbridge, the light-filled shop is popular with locals coming in for their morning coffee fix and of course, cake.

Owner Avery Goldman was on hand to guide me through their various offerings, but once I saw the pumpkin cake, I couldn't unsee it.

A temporary flavor, it was already flying off the shelves and I was lucky to snag the last one.

"It's a recipe from my friend's mom," Goldman noted. "I doctored it up a bit."

Upon opening the adorable 16 oz. mason jar, I was greeted with a huge amount of velvety cream cheese frosting, lightly sprinkled with cinnamon.

"Some people like the jars because it makes it easier to save some cake for later," Goldman mentioned, as I sat there by the sunny window, in pumpkin bliss.

I wouldn't be taking any home. I can't leave anything unfinished — especially dessert, or in this case, breakfast. (Don't judge. I'm an adult, and cake for breakfast is totally acceptable as long as coffee is involved.) Once I got through the generous layers of frosting, I reached the cake itself — impeccably moist, spiced with nutmeg, cinnamon and cloves.

Overall, the pumpkin cake is everything you'd want in a fall treat — sweet, easy to eat and delicately infused with the seasonal spices. It was perfectly balanced.

Would I come back? Heck yes. I already have my eye on the chocolate bread pudding AND dulce de leche brownie. I also found out that when I return my mason jars, I get 50 cents off my next cake purchase.

Talk about a sweet deal.

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YOUR WEEKEND STARTS NOW

HALLOWEEN SOIREES

Black Magic Bash

Celebrate Halloween weekend Magic Gardens-style. This party takes place at artist Isaiah Zagar's 9,000-square-foot mosaicked warehouse in South Philly, with music from energetic Balkan band West Philadelphia Orchestra and Mexican cuisine from South Philly Barbacoa. Costumes are required!
Oct. 29, 7-10 p.m.
Watkins Street Warehouse
1002 Watkins St.
$50 phillymagicgardens.org

Black Magic Bash COLEMAN YUNGER

Mischief at the Mutter

As if the Mutter Museum isn't already creepy enough, the house of medical oddities opens its doors for a Halloween fete that includes a flashlight tour of the museum's rarely seen basement. Tickets include an open bar for liquid courage, and a swag bag with spooky goodies like a Mutter-themed syringe shot glass, mutated lab rat plushie and, for kicks and giggles, a vagina or penis pin.
Oct. 27, 6:30-11 p.m.
Mutter Museum
19 S. 22nd St.
$40-$100
muttermuseum.org

Boo! Celebrities Edition

Dress up as your favorite star for AIDS Law Project's annual Halloween costume party and fundraising bash. Depending on how much you fork over for a ticket, the evening includes a three-course dinner, open bar and dance party, but the real draw is the entertainment. Big-name local dancers and performance artists like Brian Sanders' Junk, The Bearded Ladies and Gunnar Montana are all scheduled to perform.
Oct. 28, 6 p.m.-midnight
Bahdeebahdu
1522 N. American St.
$100-$200
aidslawpa.org

Healthy Halloween

Smith Memorial Playground hosts its annual Healthy Halloween bash that proves All Hallows' Eve doesn't have to be all about the sugary stuff. Let your little one run wild around the 16,000-square-foot play space while stuffing his or her jack-o'-lantern with wholesome snacks from Clif Bar, Beech-Nut, Bitsy's Brainfood and more. The day also includes arts and crafts activities, games hosted by Soccer Shots and gadget- and doodad-building workshops with The Hacktory.
Oct. 29, 10 a.m.-noon
Smith Memorial Playground
3500 Reservoir Drive
$0-$100

South Street PumpkinFest

On Saturday, Headhouse Square transforms into a surrealist pumpkin patch, with straw mazes, circus performances, horse and wagon hayrides and trick-or-treating for kids at local businesses from 3 to 6 p.m. Stick around after 6 for Halloween movies under the Shambles, featuring showings of "It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown" and "Beetlejuice." At 9 p.m., DJ Robert Drake hosts an interactive screening of "Rocky Horror Picture Show" for grown folks.
Oct. 29, noon-6 p.m.
Headhouse Square
Second and Lombard streets
Pay as you go
southstreet.com

Divining the Dead

Discover what the future holds at this clairvoyant journey with local spiritualist Erick Dupree. Guests are asked to bring sacred objects, like photos and other trinkets, to build an altar to their ancestors. The goal is to have someone — or something — break through to help "slay your demons and release your past" to prepare for the fresh new season ahead.
Oct. 30, 5 p.m.
Palo Santo Wellness Boutique
1707 E. Passyunk Ave.
$20

BLOCK PARTIES

Divine Lorraine Block Party

Philly's beloved Divine Lorraine will glow again. On Thursday, EB Realty Management hosts

PHILADELPHIA PHOTO ARTS CENTER

THE BLOCK
PHILLY BLOCK PROJECT
SEPTEMBER 8, 2016 – NOVEMBER 26, 2016
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As part of the *Philly Block Project*, the final exhibition, The Block is an immersive experience using photographs from South Kensington's present made by Hank Willis Thomas, Wyatt Gallery, Lisa Fairstein, Hiroyuki Ito, and Will Steacy. The floor to ceiling photographs will act as the armature of the show, stitching together a block of houses, while smaller photographs revel in the many perspectives and details found within a three block radius.

Major support for Philly Block Project has been provided by The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage, with additional support from Penn Treaty Special Services District, The John S. and James L Knight Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Photo credit
Hank Willis Thomas & Wyatt Gallery

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Divine Lorraine ABSECON

a block party to celebrate the lighting of the signs resting on top of the historic building. The fete features a beer garden, live music and traditional fall festival activities, like cornhole games.

Oct. 27, 4-10 p.m.
Divine Lorraine Hotel
Melon Street and North Park Avenue
Pay as you go
facebook.com/ebrealtymanagement

MUSIC

Powerhouse 2016

The future of hip-hop will be on full display at Wells Fargo Center for Power 99's Powerhouse showcase. And a powerhouse it is. The concert features performances by chart-toppers Wiz Khalifa, Trey Songz, Remy Ma and Philly's own Meek Mill.
Oct. 28, 6 p.m.
Wells Fargo Center
3601 S. Broad St.
$20-$150
power99.iheart.com

THEATER

"Guards at the Taj"

Take a trip to 1648 India, when two imperial guards posted at the brand new Taj Mahal are presented with a task that throws them for a moral loopty-loop. Anthony Mustafa Adair and Jenson Titus Lavallee star.
Through Nov. 13
Theatre Exile
1340 S. 13th St.
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theatreexile.org
JOSH MIDDLETON

BLOCK PARTIES

East Passyunk Fall Fest & Spooky Saturday

Fodder shocks, pumpkins and armies of creepy costumes line East Passyunk Avenue Saturday for the thoroughfare's annual fall festival. The area surrounding the Singing Fountain plays home to activities all day long, like pumpkin painting, arts and crafts and a costume contest for kids and pups. Restaurants open their doors to offer seasonal street fare, and live music comes courtesy of local bands Shakey & Winky, Mia Johnson and Las Palabras.
Oct. 29, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
East Passyunk Avenue, Tasker to Broad streets
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visiteastpassyunk.com

How adorable is this mini Dorothy? PROVIDED

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With Halloween on the horizon, how about a seasonal getaway where you might see something far more memorable than fall foliage?

Remember the Alamo? Some spirits can't forget it. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

The Alamo

On March 6, 1836, nearly 2,000 Texans and Mexican soldiers were either wounded or killed in the Battle of the Alamo. But many of the tour guides and visitors at this significant San Antonio landmark contend that those perished souls never left. Reported supernatural activity includes sightings of American hero Davy Crockett, sounds of cannon fire and screams, and the longtime legend of six diablos, or devils, brandishing flaming swords.

Rolling Hills Asylum

Opened in 1827, Rolling Hills Asylum in East Bethany, New York, once served as an infirmary, orphanage, tuberculosis hospital and nursing home, housing everyone from mentally unstable individuals to murderers. More than 1,700 bodies are buried in unmarked graves on the grounds, and reports of disembodied voices, full-body apparitions, doors slamming and furniture moving are all ordinary experiences here. Visitors can try their hand at rustling up the resident spirits during overnight ghost hunts, while historical and flashlight tours are tamer tour options.

The Tower of London

Believed by many to be London's most haunted building, this circa 11th-century fortress is bursting with stories of spirits roaming within. The most legendary include Queen Anne Boleyn — who was beheaded in 1536 and has been known to walk around the White Tower with her head under her arm — Guy Fawkes and Sir Walter Raleigh. But the extensive paranormal activity at the Tower also includes levitating shapes, disturbing noises and a bear — the grounds were briefly a zoo! Listen to the ghostly tales of the fortress during popular Twilight Tower Tours.

The Queen Mary

More than 50 people are believed to have died aboard the historic Queen Mary ocean liner, which is now moored in Long Beach, California, as a hotel and tourist attraction that's awash in spiritual activity. One prominent paranormal hot spot is the area on the hull that marks where the ship crashed into another vessel. Pounding and screams, perhaps from the souls of the sailors who met their watery end in the disaster, are often heard there. Other reports include ghostly swimmers in a pool with no water and sightings of long-ago crew members.

Moundsville Penitentiary

During Moundsville Penitentiary's more than 100 years of operation in West Virginia, this spooky spot ranked among America's most violent correctional facilities with prisoner riots, inmate murders, hangings and electrocutions. The 53,000-square-foot prison closed in 1995, but screams of tortured souls can often be heard during various paranormal-centric tours. During the day, you can explore the grounds, including rows of cramped cells; by night, braver visitors can choose to be locked inside the formidable Gothic building by themselves until daybreak.

Gettysburg Battlefield

The hauntings are almost as prevalent as the history at Pennsylvania's Gettysburg Battlefield, the site of the largest battle in North American history that claimed 51,000 casualties on July 3, 1863. Visitors and various ghost-hunting teams have heard (and recorded) screams, moans, and the sounds of guns and cannon fire. Off-ground ghostly experiences are common, too, especially in surrounding buildings such as Gettysburg College and the Farnsworth House Inn. Ghost tours offer insight into the town's various hotspots.

Trans-Allegheny Lunatic Asylum

Starting in 1864, this sprawling, spooky spot in Weston, West Virginia, housed thousands of people with mental illness, hundreds of whom died on the grounds. Today, that backdrop draws crowds of paranormal groups — the Trans-Allegheny Lunatic Asylum also has appeared on several TV shows — and thrill-seeking tourists, who explore the 242,000-square-foot-property looking for specters. Visitors can stay on the tamer side with daytime tours that focus on history or ratchet up the freak-out factor by being locked in overnight.

Clinton Road

This desolate 10-mile stretch off Route 23 North in West Milford, New Jersey, has been spooking sojourners for decades. Reports abound about Satanic rituals in the nearby woods, a phantom truck that tailgates terrified drivers and a ghostly child who locals say haunts the perilous Dead Man's Curve, throwing back the coins that people toss into the river below. Legends aside, the road is scary enough on its own, with no lighting and sharp turns.

Moundsville Penitentiary

Edinburgh Castle

Reigning above a Scottish city notorious for its murders, plague and torture, and with 900 years of its own history spanning executions, surprise attacks and purported witches burned at the stake, it's no surprise that this landmark attraction is rich with paranormal lore. In fact, Edinburgh Castle was the site of one of the world's largest paranormal investigations in 2001. Among experiences reported by the dozens of volunteers were ghostly touches, temperature drops and shadowy figures. Today, guided tours offer the everyday visitor a chance to see a specter of their own. Don't miss the dog cemetery, the final resting place for officers' beloved pets.

Edinburgh Castle

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Clean play from Gudas is key for Flyers' defense

Radko Gudas is a key defender for the Flyers, but disciplined play is just as important as production on the ice. GETTY IMAGES

The recently suspended blue-liner must make sure he can stay on the ice.

ERIC GOLDSTEIN
@EricEsponda
sports@metro.us

Flyers defenseman Radko Gudas returned from his six-game suspension on Tuesday and made his regular season debut during the team's 4-3 shootout victory over the Sabres. Given his track record and growing reputation, particularly at the NHL office, one has to wonder how long it will be until his next unpaid vacation.

Gudas received his suspension for a hit on the Bruins' Austin Czarnik in the final preseason game. The bruising defenseman drilled the rookie in the head with his shoulder well after Czarnik had cleared the puck.

It was the second suspension for Gudas, who missed three games last year for a dangerous hit. He surprisingly avoided a suspension earlier this preseason when he was ejected from the game following a controversial hit against the Rangers.

Due to his penchant for straddling that fine line between legal and illegal checks, the league's Department of Player Safety, ironically led by former Flyer Chris Pronger, no doubt has Gudas on its radar — and Gudas knows it.

"They've been looking at me since the day I got here," he told reporters earlier in the week. "[The league] made up their minds. I have to make sure I don't give them an opportunity to call again."

The Flyers wouldn't mind if the NHL removes him from their speed dial, especially because Gudas plays such a key role.

Signed in the offseason to a four-year, $13.4 million contract, the 6-foot, 200 pound 26-year-old is the team's biggest defenseman and brings a physical element to the ice. He makes forwards think twice about skating over the blue line or going into the corner and sticks up for smaller teammates.

When he plays a disciplined game, Gudas is one of the most fearsome players in the league. When he plays like a loose cannon, he spends the majority of his time in the penalty box, or worse, watching from the press box.

The problem is, you never know which player is going to show up from night to night. For much of the first half of the last year, he was putting his team at a disadvantage with bad penalties. Over the final two months of the season, though, Gudas toned down the reckless hits, remained physical, even added some offense and was one of the team's top defensemen.

Paired with Mark Streit, Gudas played 18 minutes, 27 seconds against the Sabres, was a minus-1 and delivered three hits — none of which will garner any extra attention from the NHL.

"Overall, I thought it was a pretty good first outing," Flyers coach Dave Hakstol said after the win. "He moved the puck pretty well and seemed to defend pretty well. Overall, what you want to see is for him to go out and play an efficient game. For the most part, I thought he went out and did that."

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NFL power rankings | by Luke Miller

No. 1

Patriots (6-1)

The Vikings' distress is New England's opportunity, and the Pats reclaim the top spot after an impressive road victory (Ben Roethlisberger or no) in Pittsburgh. The Patriots will look to revenge the lone blemish on their record in Buffalo this coming Sunday.

No. 2

Cowboys (5-1)

The Cowboys can put some more distance between themselves and the second place team when Philadelphia visits Dallas for a battle of the NFL's two most successful rookie signal callers: Dak Prescott and Carson Wentz. Ezekiel Elliott will try and continue to make his case for NFL MVP.

No. 3

Seahawks (4-1-1)

A shocking miss from Stephen Hauschka kept Seattle from stealing a victory despite being outgained by almost 200 yards. The disparity between offenses may be just as evident next week, when Seattle visits the Saints, who are averaging 29.3 points per game, or 11 more than the Seahawks.

No. 4

Vikings (5-1)

The Vikings defense was up to its usual tricks in Philly, but for the first time this unit was outshone by the one on the other side of the field. The first loss diagnosis doesn't look too bad for the Vikings: The defense only allowed one scoring drive longer than 50 yards and the run game was effective.

No. 5

Broncos (5-2)

Not that Broncos defenders were pushovers during the previous two losses, but this was the defense we expected to see all week, terrorizing Brock Osweiler for four quarters in his return to Denver. In addition, Trevor Siemian a outplayed the quarterback he replaced.

No. 6

Eagles (4-2)

The Eagles have now beaten the team in the top spot twice. Their two most dominating performances of the season have come at home against the Steelers and the Vikings, both undefeated teams at the time, and that has to bode well for this team facing big games in the future.

Best of the rest

7 — Chiefs (4-2)
8 — Raiders (5-2)
9 — Falcons (4-3)
10 — Steelers (4-3)
11 — Packers (4-2)
12 — Bills (4-3)
13 — Cardinals (3-3-1)
14 — Chargers (3-4)
15 — Lions (4-3)
16 — Bengals (3-4)
17 — Redskins (4-3)
18 — Giants (4-3)
19 — Texans (4-3)
20 — Dolphins (3-4)

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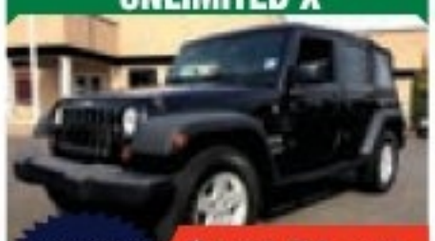
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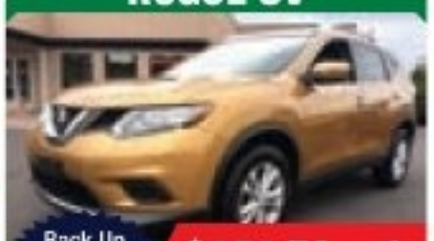
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Pederson shoots down Smith, Jeffery trade rumors

The Eagles' weak spot is their wide receivers. GETTY IMAGES

A day after rumors swirled about the Eagles involvement in trade talks for wide receivers Torrey Smith and Alshon Jeffery — from the 49ers and Bears, respectively — Philly head coach Doug Pederson shot them down.

"There's no legitimacy to that," the coach said in his Wednesday news conference, "and I'm thrilled with the guys we have and going to work with them every day.

"I think every team is trying to upgrade every position if you could, but not at this time, no."

Pro Football Talk, Adam Schefter and a bevy of other media outlets reported the trade rumors, and while Pederson could be right (the price tag for both could be pretty high), trading for a wide receiver would be a good fit for the 4-2 Eagles.

Both Smith and Jeffery are wideouts who have a proven track record and who can make big plays down the field — and the Eagles are lacking in the department. Despite having a quarterback in Carson Wentz who loves to go deep, and who has a pretty good arm, Philly hasn't gone vertical much. Is that due to game-by-game circumstance? Or is it because they lack the proper personnel?

"Nelson [Agholor] can stretch it; Josh [Huff] can stretch it," Pederson replied after he was asked about whether the Eagles wide receivers could go deep. "But I think it's protection and design of the play. When I think of stretching the field, I mean, a guy can run fast and that can be stretching the field, but who can really take the top off? Those two guys are two that can do that — and Bryce Treggs."

Treggs is on the 53-man roster but has been inactive throughout the regular season. Instead, Philly has relied on Agholor, Huff, Jordan Matthews and Dorial Green-Beckham.

The Eagles have the third least team receiving yards with just 1,324 on the year, more than only the Bills and Niners. In contrast, the Falcons have more than 1,000 more (though they've played one more game). Philadelphia has also collected the third fewest completions in the NFL.

The Birds' pass-catchers have also combined for the fourth highest drop rate in the NFL at 5.5 percent.

One way or another, the wide receiver position is a problem. And if the players on the current receivers don't step up they won't be with the club much longer. Both Smith and Jeffery are free agents this spring. EVAN MACY

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City of Philadelphia Public Hearing Notice

The **Committee on Law and Government** of the Council of the City of Philadelphia will hold a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, November 2, 2016,** at **10:00 AM,** in **Room 400, City Hall,** to hear testimony on the following item:

160851 Resolution authorizing the Council Committee on Law & Government to hold hearings regarding campaign finance reform and public financing of municipal elections.

Immediately following the public hearing, a meeting of the Committee on Law and Government, open to the public, will be held to consider the action to be taken on the above listed item.

Copies of the foregoing item are available in the Office of the Chief Clerk of the Council, Room 402, City Hall.

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63 Slight advantage
64 Command to a pooch
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7 Minn. neighbor
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metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Put your time and effort into beneficial legal, financial and medical opportunities. A romantic celebration will enhance your personal life and long-term future.

Taurus A unique professional relationship will turn into something special. If you share ideas, you'll come up with new ways to use your skills and attributes to get ahead.

Gemini Focus on relationships, commitment and self-improvement projects. A retreat or lifestyle change will give you a better sense of what you should be doing with your life.

Cancer You must keep the peace at home. Too much of anything will be your downfall. Stick to basics and avoid indulgence. Use intelligence instead of force.

Leo Don't leave anything to chance. Live up to your promises and finish what you start. The more focused and organized you are, the less criticism you'll face.

Virgo Plan a day trip and make a business move. Set up meetings and discuss what you have to offer and what you need to help you advance.

Libra Taking a peek at your past may help you establish what you can do to improve your life now. The answer lies within you, not in someone else.

Scorpio Change your direction if it will help you reach your goal. Don't let anyone sidetrack you when you are so close to hitting pay dirt. Be true to yourself.

Sagittarius Be willing to accept help if it will ensure that you reach your target. An emotional relationship will require a little nurturing if you want to avoid complaints.

Capricorn You'll be tempted to get involved in a last-minute scheme that will end up costing you plenty. Stick to a plan you can trust and a pace you can keep.

Aquarius Tidy up loose ends in order to free up time to follow your heart and dreams. A romantic gesture will improve your personal situation. A financial gain is within reach.

Pisces Don't let your emotions spoil your day. Be a team player, and always be willing to compromise. A joint venture looks promising. EUGENIA LAST

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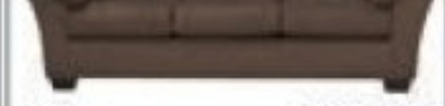

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